

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference B14265.3 JL	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/FR2004/050298	International filing date (day/month/year) 30.06.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 01.07.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H01H1/00		
Applicant COMMISSARIAT A L'ENERGIE ATOMIQUE		

1.	This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2.	This REPORT consists of a total of _____ sheets, including this cover sheet.
3.	This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: a. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of _____ sheets, as follows: <input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4.	This report contains indications relating to the following items: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

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Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
 - ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):
 - ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
 - ☒ the description:
 - pages 1-26 _____ as originally filed/furnished
 - pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 - pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 - ☒ the claims:
 - nos. 1-15 _____ as originally filed/furnished
 - nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 - nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 - nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 - ☒ the drawings:
 - sheets 1/4-4/4 _____ as originally filed/furnished
 - sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 - sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 - ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
 - ☐ the description, pages _____
 - ☐ the claims, nos. _____
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
 - ☐ the description, pages _____
 - ☐ the claims, nos. _____
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	2, 4-8, 11-13	YES
	Claims	1, 3, 9, 10, 14, 15	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-15	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-15	YES
	Claims		NO
2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)			
1. Reference is made to the following documents in the present notification:			
D1: US 2003/029705 A1 (STRUEMPLER RALF ET AL) 13 February 2003 (2003-02-13)			
2. INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1			
2.1 The present application fails to comply with the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) since the subject matter of claim 1 does not meet the requirement of novelty defined in PCT Article 33(2).			
Document D1 describes (the reference signs between parentheses apply to this document):			
A bistable MEMS microswitch (paragraph 0011) provided on a substrate (122a and b, figures 13d to f) and suitable for electrically connecting the ends (114a and b) of two conductive portions, including a beam (119) suspended above the substrate surface and having embedded ends, wherein said beam is compressively stressed when in the non-deflected position (i.e. between			

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deflected positions 120a and 120b in figures 13d and 13e; the beam is not stressed in said deflected positions (see paragraph 0157), and is thus necessarily stressed when in the non-deflected position). Said beam has electrical contact means (113) arranged to provide a sideways connection with the ends of the two conductive portions when the beam is deflected horizontally relative to the substrate surface (paragraph 203, last sentence), the microswitch has beam actuating means (124, 125, 126) for placing the beam either in a first deflected position or first stable condition (120b) or in a second deflected position or second stable condition (120a) that is opposite to the first deflected position relative to the non-deflected position, and said electrical contact means connect the ends (114a and b) of the two conductive portions when the beam is in the first deflected position (120b).

3. DEPENDENT CLAIMS 2 TO 5, 9, 10, 14 AND 15

These claims do not contain any features which, when combined with the features of any one of the claims to which they refer, might define subject matter that complies with the requirements of novelty and inventive step of the PCT (PCT Article 33(2) and (3)).